

Remarks

The Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 17 – 22.

The Applicants have cancelled Claims 1 – 8 and 13 – 15. This renders all of the rejections moot. Withdrawal of the remaining rejections is respectfully requested.

The Applicants note that page 1 of the Official Action recites that none of the copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau. The Applicants have reviewed the record in this case and it appears as if copies of the certified copies were indeed forwarded by the International Bureau. In that regard, the Applicants submit a copy of Form PCT/IB/304 stating that the copies were submitted. The Applicants would accordingly appreciate indication on the record that the Application is fully in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §119.

In light of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that the entire Application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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PCT

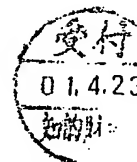
NOTIFICATION CONCERNING
SUBMISSION OR TRANSMITTAL
OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

OCHIAI, Kenichiro
Tokyo Head Office, Kawasaki Steel
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Hibiya Kokusai Building
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Date of mailing (day/month/year) 10 April 2001 (10.04.01)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 01F00001	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/JP01/01004	International filing date (day/month/year) 14 February 2001 (14.02.01)
International publication date (day/month/year) Not yet published	Priority date (day/month/year) 26 May 2000 (26.05.00)
Applicant KAWASAKI STEEL CORPORATION et al	

- The applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt (except where the letters "NR" appear in the right-hand column) by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to the earlier application(s) indicated below. Unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk appearing next to a date of receipt, or by the letters "NR", in the right-hand column, the priority document concerned was submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b).
- This updates and replaces any previously issued notification concerning submission or transmittal of priority documents.
- An asterisk(*) appearing next to a date of receipt, in the right-hand column, denotes a priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau but not in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b). In such a case, the attention of the applicant is directed to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.
- The letters "NR" appearing in the right-hand column denote a priority document which was not received by the International Bureau or which the applicant did not request the receiving Office to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau, as provided by Rule 17.1(a) or (b), respectively. In such a case, the attention of the applicant is directed to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.

<u>Priority date</u>	<u>Priority application No.</u>	<u>Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office</u>	<u>Date of receipt of priority document</u>
26 May 2000 (26.05.00)	2000/156274	JP	06 Apr 2001 (06.04.01)
28 June 2000 (28.06.00)	2000/193717	JP	06 Apr 2001 (06.04.01)
27 Octo 2000 (27.10.00)	2000/328924	JP	06 Apr 2001 (06.04.01)
02 Nove 2000 (02.11.00)	2000/335803	JP	06 Apr 2001 (06.04.01)

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer: Marc Salzman Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38
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